

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A thermoplastic composition comprising:

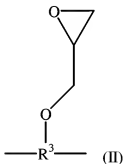
a compatibilized poly(arylene ether)/polyamide composition;

an electrically conductive filler;

an impact modifier; and

an adhesion promoter selected from the group consisting of alpha-beta unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymers, polymers with pendant epoxy groups and combinations of two or more of the foregoing,

wherein the polymers with pendant epoxy groups comprise repeating subunits having formula (II):



wherein R³ is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic group having 6 to 9 carbons or alkyl group, branched, unbranched, or cyclic, substituted or unsubstituted, having 1 to 6 carbons

wherein the adhesion promoter or combination of adhesion promoters is present in an amount of 0.5 ~~to 2.5~~ to 1.5 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic composition.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic composition of claim 1, wherein the electrically conductive filler comprises conductive carbon black.

4. (Original) The thermoplastic composition of claim 1, wherein the polyamide is selected from the group consisting of nylon-6, nylon-6,6, nylon-4,6, nylon-12, nylon 6,9, nylon 6/6T, PA9T, and combinations of two or more of the foregoing polyamides.

5. (Original) The thermoplastic composition of claim 1, wherein the adhesion promoter further comprises a polyester ionomer.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Original) The thermoplastic composition of claim 6, wherein the impact modifier is selected from the group consisting of polystyrene-polybutadiene, polystyrene-polyisoprene, poly(alpha-methyl styrene)-polybutadiene, polystyrene-polybutadiene-polystyrene, polystyrene-polyisoprene-polystyrene, polystyrene-poly(ethylene-butylene)-polystyrene triblock copolymer, polystyrene-poly(ethylene-propylene) diblock copolymer, poly(alpha-methylstyrene)-polybutadiene-poly(alpha-methylstyrene) and combinations of two or more of the foregoing impact modifiers.

8. (Original) The thermoplastic composition of claim 1, further comprising an antioxidant.

9. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic composition of claim 8, wherein the antioxidant is selected from the group consisting of phenolic antioxidants, 3-arylbenzofuranones, hindered amine stabilizers, ultraviolet light absorbers, alkaline metal salts of fatty acids, hydrotalcites, epoxylized soybean oils, hydroxylamines, tertiary amine oxides, thiosynergists, and mixtures of two or more of the foregoing antioxidants

10. (Original) The thermoplastic composition of claim 1, further comprising a metal salt.

11. (Currently amended) The thermoplastic composition of claim 1, wherein the poly(arylene ether) is present in an amount of about 20 to about 50 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic composition, and the polyamide is present in an amount of about 30 to about 65 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic composition; ~~and the adhesion promoter is present in an amount sufficient to improve paint adhesion when compared to a comparable composition not containing the adhesion promoter.~~

12. (Original) A molded article comprising the thermoplastic composition of claim 1.

13. (Currently amended) A thermoplastic composition comprising:

a compatibilized poly(arylene ether)/polyamide composition comprising about 20 to about 50 weight percent poly(arylene ether) and about 30 to about 65 weight percent polyamide, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic composition;

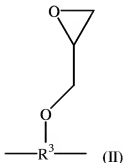
about 1 to about 25 weight percent of an impact modifier, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic composition;

about 0.1 to about 15 weight percent of an electrically conductive filler, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic composition;

an impact modifier selected from the group consisting of polystyrene-polybutadiene, polystyrene-polyisoprene, poly(alpha-methyl styrene)-polybutadiene, polystyrene-polybutadiene-polystyrene, polystyrene-polyisoprene-polystyrene, polystyrene-poly(ethylene-butylene)-polystyrene triblock copolymer, polystyrene-poly(ethylene-propylene) diblock copolymer, poly(alpha-methylstyrene)-polybutadiene-poly(alpha-methylstyrene) and combinations of two or more of the foregoing impact modifiers; and

about 0.5 to 2.5 weight percent of an adhesion promoter selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid copolymers, polymers with pendant epoxy groups, and combinations of the foregoing wherein all weight percents are based on the total weight of the composition, and

wherein the polymers with pendant epoxy groups comprise repeating subunits having formula (II):



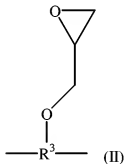
wherein R³ is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic group having 6 to 9 carbons or

alkyl group, branched, unbranched, or cyclic, substituted or unsubstituted, having 1 to 6 carbons.

14. (Currently amended) A thermoplastic composition, produced by a process comprising:

melt mixing a compatibilized poly(arylene ether) polyamide composition with an adhesion promoter selected from the group consisting of alpha-beta unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymers, polymers with pendant epoxy groups and combinations of two or more of the foregoing, wherein the compatibilized poly(arylene ether) polyamide composition further comprises an electrically conductive filler, an impact modifier and,

wherein the polymers with pendant epoxy groups comprise repeating subunits having formula (II):



wherein R^3 is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic group having 6 to 9 carbons or alkyl group, branched, unbranched, or cyclic, substituted or unsubstituted, having 1 to 6 carbons; and

wherein the adhesion promoter or combination of adhesion promoters is present in an amount of 0.5 to ~~2.5~~ 1.5 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic composition.

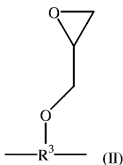
15. (Original) The thermoplastic composition of claim 14 wherein the compatibilized poly(arylene ether) polyamide composition further comprises an impact modifier.

16. (Original) The thermoplastic composition of claim 14 wherein the compatibilized poly(arylene ether) polyamide composition further comprises an anti-oxidant.

17. (Original) The thermoplastic composition of claim 14 further comprising a metal salt.
18. (Canceled)
19. (Original) A molded part comprising the thermoplastic composition of claim 14.
20. (New) A thermoplastic composition, produced by a process comprising:

melt mixing a compatibilized poly(arylene ether) polyamide composition with an adhesion promoter selected from the group consisting of alpha-beta unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymers, polymers with pendant epoxy groups and combinations of two or more of the foregoing, wherein the compatibilized poly(arylene ether) polyamide composition comprises an electrically conductive filler, an impact modifier selected from the group consisting of polystyrene-polybutadiene, polystyrene-polyisoprene, poly(alpha-methyl styrene)-polybutadiene, polystyrene-polybutadiene-polystyrene, polystyrene-polyisoprene-polystyrene, polystyrene-poly(ethylene-butylene)-polystyrene triblock copolymer, polystyrene-poly(ethylene-propylene) diblock copolymer, poly(alpha-methylstyrene)-polybutadiene-poly(alpha-methylstyrene) and combinations of two or more of the foregoing impact modifiers; and,

wherein the polymers with pendant epoxy groups comprise repeating subunits having formula (II):



wherein R^3 is a substituted or unsubstituted aromatic group having 6 to 9 carbons or alkyl group, branched, unbranched, or cyclic, substituted or unsubstituted, having 1 to 6 carbons; and

wherein the adhesion promoter or combination of adhesion promoters is present in an amount of 0.5 to 2.5 weight percent, based on the total weight of the thermoplastic composition.